

BARROWFORD URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1941.

Barrowford Urban District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H., (Died 16/2/1941).

G. J. ROBERTS, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H., D.P.A.
(Appointed 5/8/1941).

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

J. F. SMITHIE, M. Inst. M. & Cy. E., A.R.S.I.

Part-time Officers

from the

Nelson Public Health Department:

J. W. Ingham, C.R.S.I.; S. Grindrod, C.R.S.I.

3.

Public Health Office,
Nelson.

August, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the Barrowford
Urban District Council.

Mrs. Councillor Hindley and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of Barrowford during 1941. The Report has been considerably reduced in size as requested by the Minister of Health.

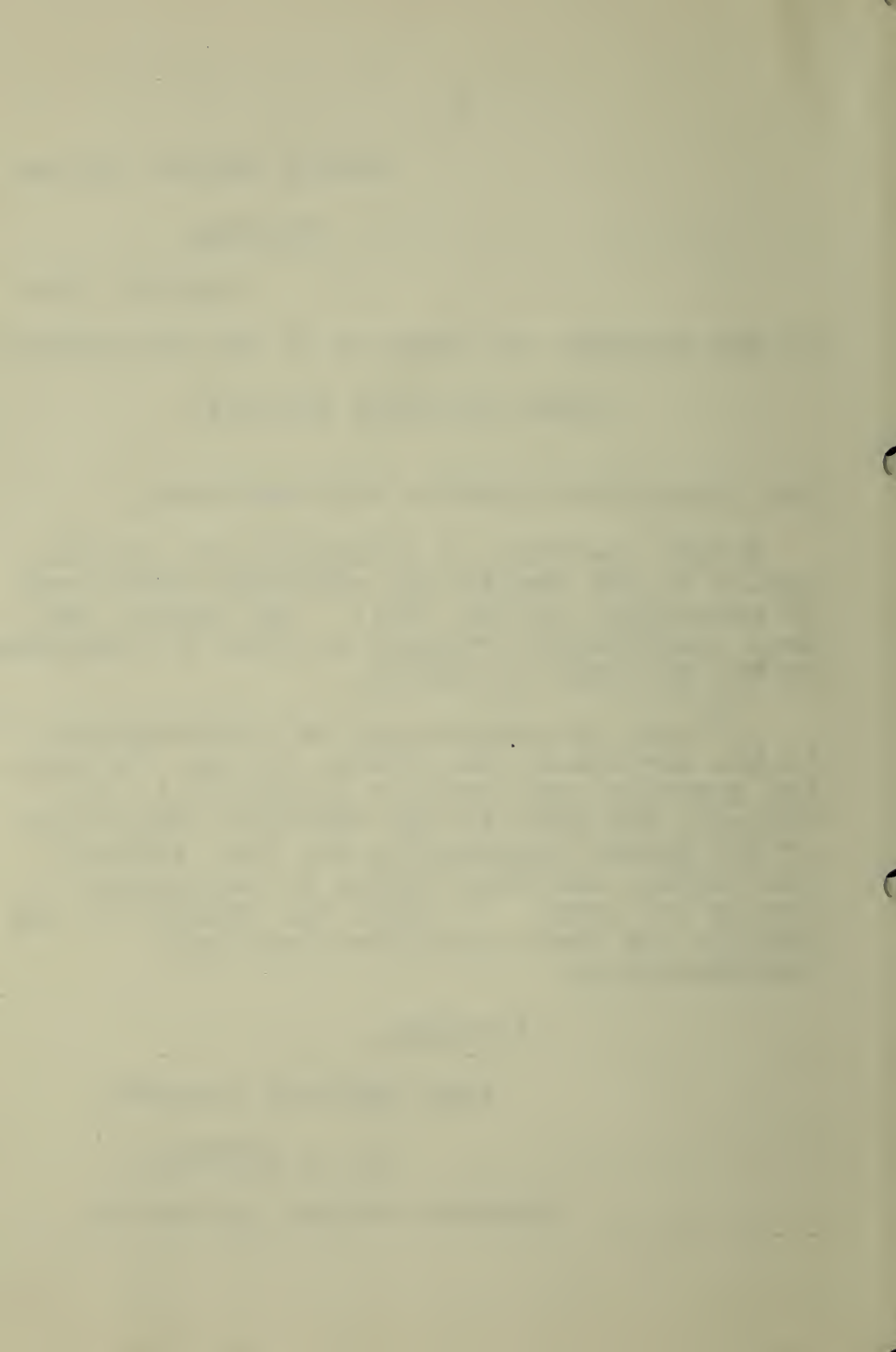
I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Armistead, the Clerk, and Mr. Smithie, the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector to the Council, and also to the Sanitary Inspectors of the Nelson Corporation who have carried out certain sanitary duties at Barrowford during the year. I thank the Members of the Council for their continued help and consideration.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

G. J. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health.



1. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	1387
Population - Census 1931	5299
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid 1941	4756
Number of inhabited houses:-	
(a) Census, 1931	1602
(b) End of 1941 according to rate books.	1785
Rateable value	£27564
Sum represented by a penny rate	£107

Social and Industrial Conditions remain as before.

Vital Statistics.

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor was there any significant changes in occupation or environment causing prejudicial effects on health.

Unemployment has been considerably reduced owing to war-time demands on Labour.

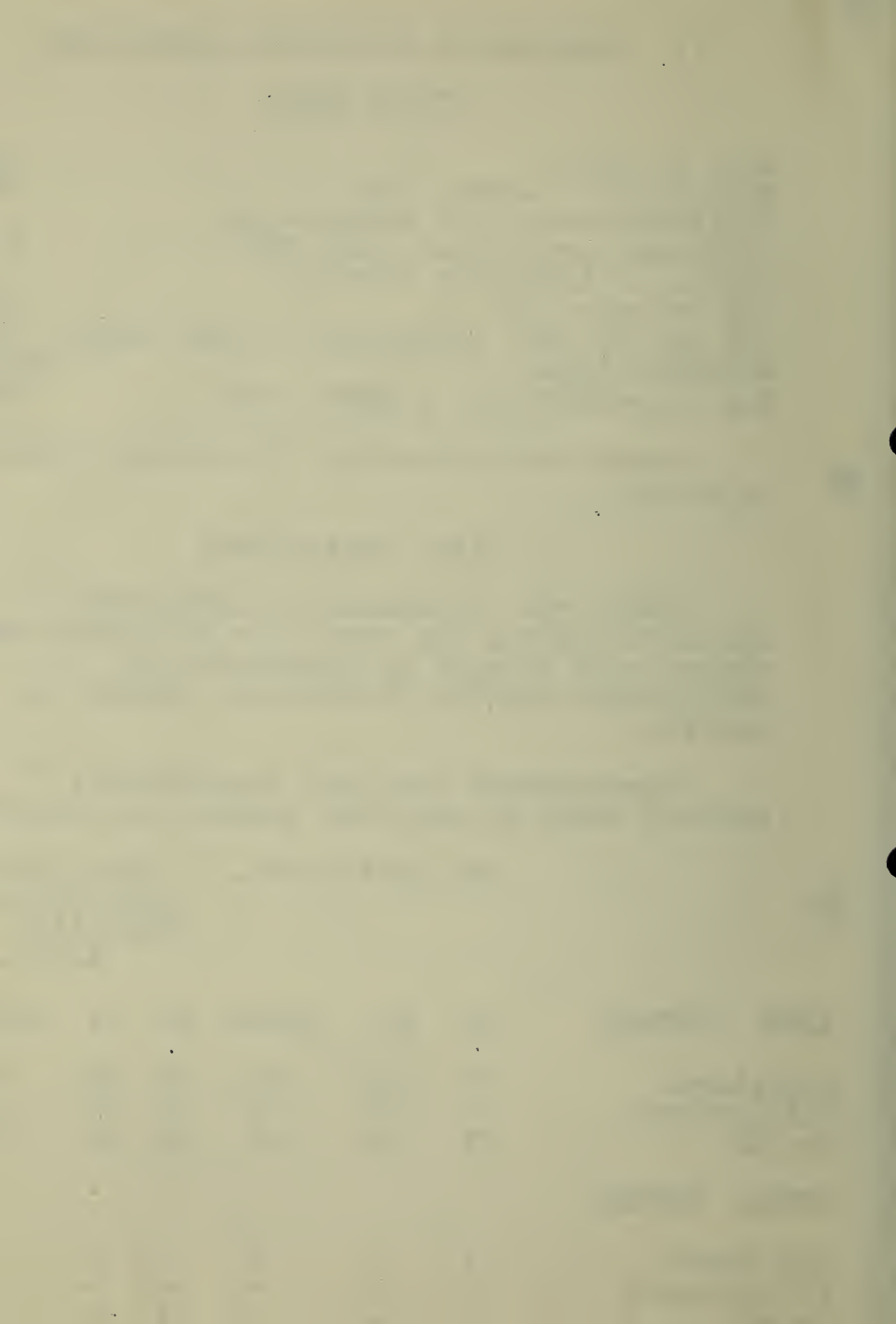
For Birth Rate.

For Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates.

LIVE BIRTHS.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	21	29	50	22	30	52
Illegitimate	-	1	1	-	1	1
Totals	21	30	51	22	31	53

STILL BIRTHS.

Legitimate	2	-	2	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	2	2	-	2



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Annual Live Birth Rate for the year - 10.7 per 1000 of population.

Annual Still Birth Rate for the year - 0.42 per 1000 of population.

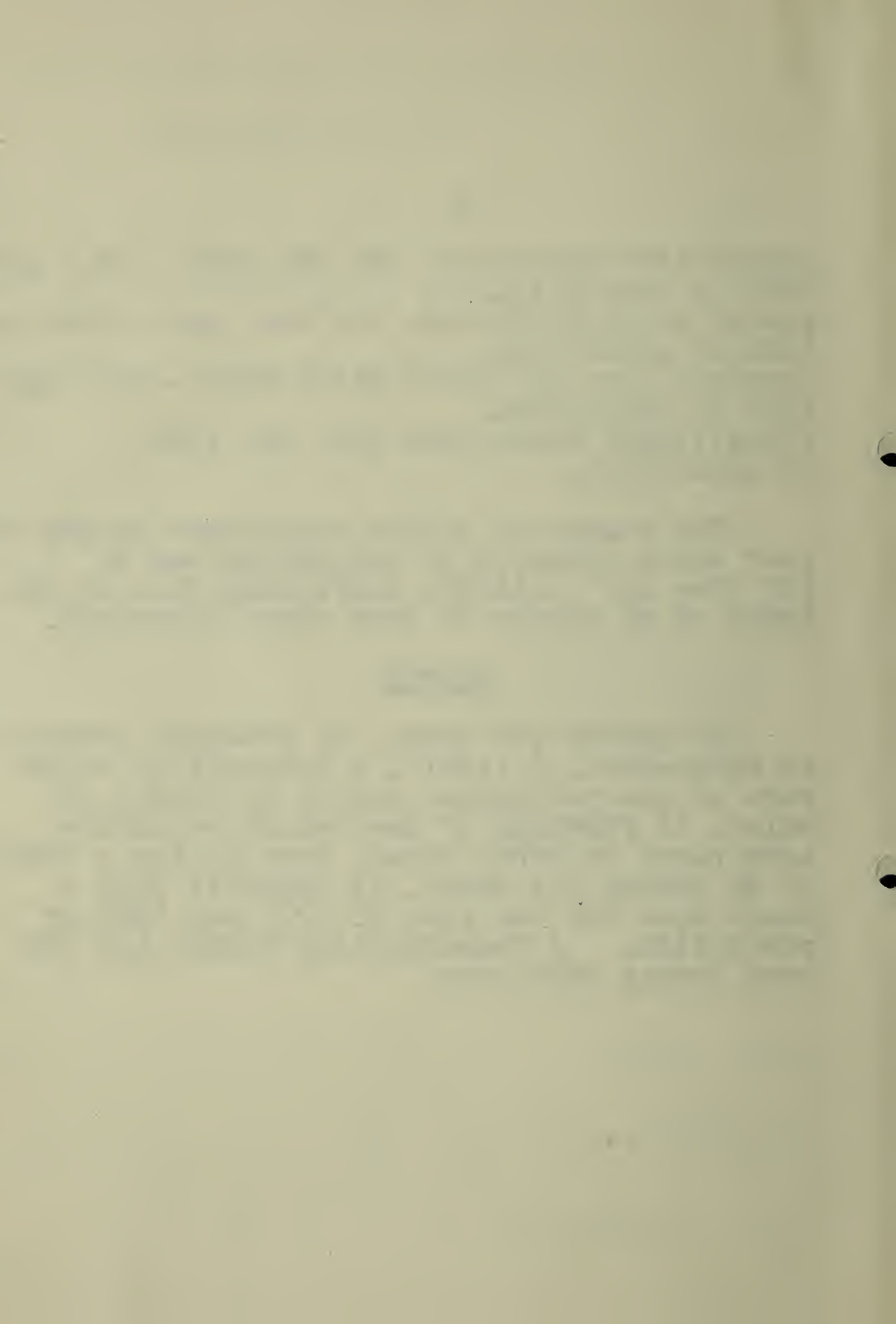
Combined Live and Still Birth Rate - 11.1 per 1000 of population.

Illegitimate Birth Rate 0.21 per 1000 of population.

The number of births registered during the year which occurred in Barrowford was 24 (23 live and 1 still), indicating that of the total of 55 births 31 took place elsewhere.

DEATHS.

56 deaths (21 males, 35 females) occurred in Barrowford, 5 (1 male, 4 females) of which were of non-residents, whilst 33 deaths (21 males, 12 females) of Barrowford residents took place in other areas, thus giving a total of 84 deaths (41 males, 43 females) with a Death Rate for the year of 17.7 per 1000 of population. A Comparability Factor has not been issued this year.



Analysis of deaths in age groups:-

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1	2	1	3
5 - 10	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	1
25 - 30	1	-	1
30 - 35	1	-	1
35 - 40	1	-	1
40 - 45	2	-	2
45 - 50	2	-	2
50 - 55	5	5	10
55 - 60	3	3	6
60 - 65	4	5	9
65 - 70	5	8	13
75 - 80	5	9	14
80 - 85	-	6	6
85 - 90	3	-	3

Analysis of deaths according to causes, with rates:-

Cause of death.	M.	F.	Total	Death Rate per 1000 of population
All causes	41	43	84	17.66
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	1	1	0.21
Influenza	1	1	2	0.42
Malignant disease	9	9	18	3.78
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	3	3	6	1.26
Heart disease	11	13	24	5.04
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	1	2	0.42
Bronchitis	2	5	7	1.47
Pneumonia	1	1	2	0.42

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Cause of death	M.	F.	Total	Death Rate per 1000 of population
Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	3	1	4	0.84
Other digestive diseases	1	0	1	0.21
Nephritis	4	4	8	1.68
Premature birth	2	1	3	0.63
All other causes	3	3	6	1.26

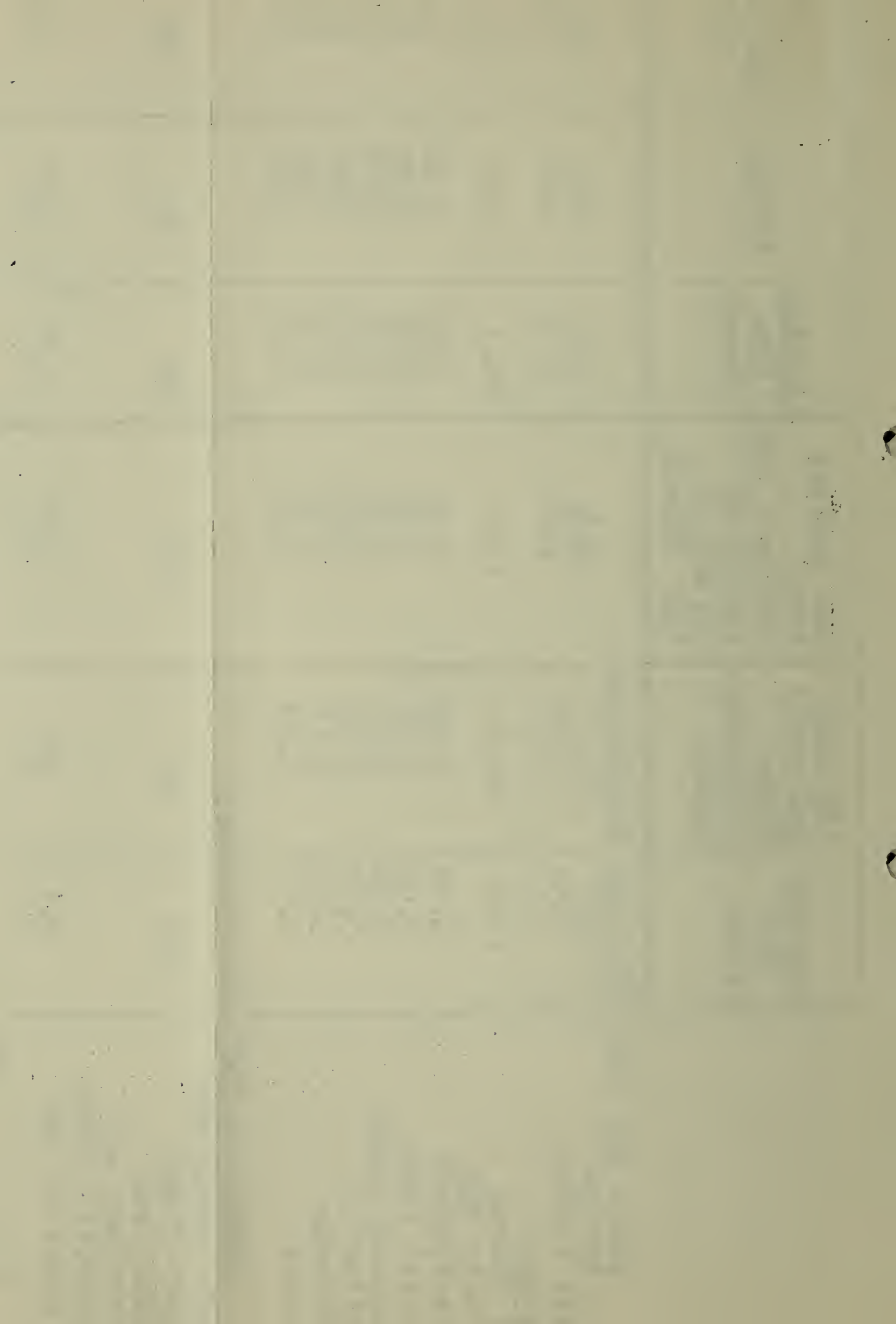
The excess of deaths over births for the year was 31 (42 in 1940).

There were 3 deaths (4 in 1940) of infants under 1 year of age, 2 males (legitimate) and 1 female (illegitimate), giving an infant mortality rate of 56 per 1000 live births. Of the 3 infant deaths (all due to prematurity) 2 were in twins (died in 6 hours and 3 weeks respectively), the other being in a child who survived for one week.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates,
Analysis of **Mortality** and Maternal Mortality
in the year 1941 is shown on page 8.



	England and Wales		126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London		148 Smaller Towns Resident pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census		London Adm. County		Nelson		Barrow-ford	
Rates per 1000 Civilian Population:-												
Live Births	14.2	14.7	14.7	16.4	16.4	8.9	10.5	10.7	8.9	10.5	10.7	
Still Births	0.51	0.58	0.58	0.60	0.60	0.33	0.61	0.42	0.33	0.61	0.42	
Deaths:-												
All Causes	12.9	14.9	14.9	13.0	13.0	16.3	14.3	17.7	16.3	14.3	17.7	
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	
Scarlet fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Whooping cough	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.09	0.00	0.04	0.09	0.00	
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.00	
Influenza	0.19	0.17	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.15	0.09	0.42	0.15	0.09	0.42	
Measles	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	
Rates per 1000 live births:-												
Deaths under one year of age	59	71	71	56	56	68	51	56	68	51	56	
Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years of age	5.1	7.5	7.5	4.6	4.6	6.8	0.0	0.0	6.8	0.0	0.0	
Rates per 1000 Total Births (Live and Still):-												
Maternal Mortality:-												
Puerperal infection	0.48	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	Not avail	2.53	0.00	Not avail	2.53	0.00	
Others	1.75	able	able	able	able	able	2.53	0.00	2.53	2.53	0.00	
Total	2.23	-able	-able	-able	-able	-able	5.06	0.00	5.06	5.06	0.00	



2. General Provision of Health Services
 for the Area.

Laboratory and Ambulance Facilities remain as reported last year.

Nursing in the Home. - The arrangement with the Local Nursing Association, which includes facilities for home nursing in cases of pneumonia, encephalitis lethargica and influenza, remains in operation but no visits were required during the year.

Clinics and Treatment Centres. - These are as previously reported, the Lancashire County Council is both the Education and the Welfare Authority.

Hospital Provision. - Accommodation for Barrowford residents remains unchanged.

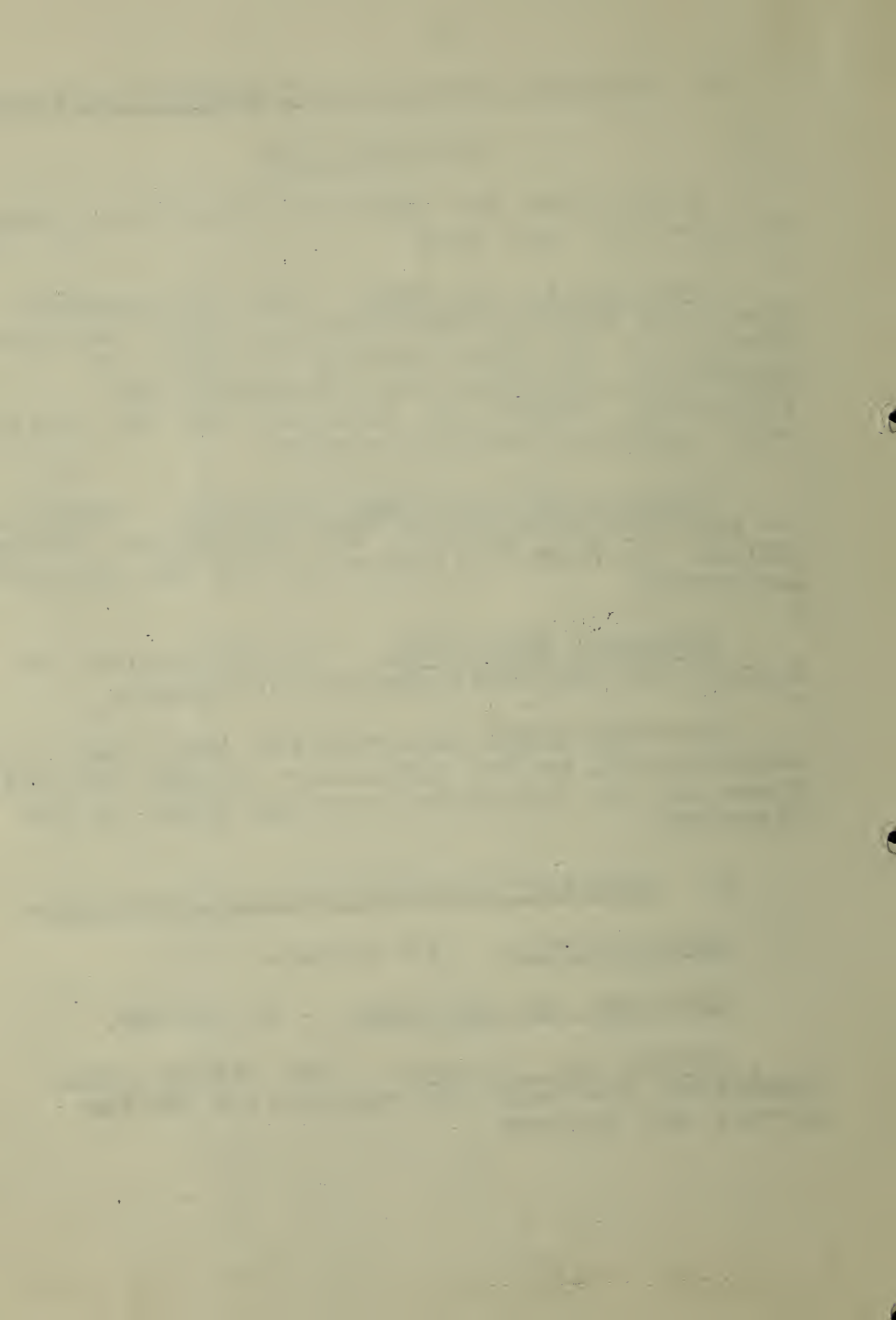
Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, is administered by the Lancashire County Council; there are no registered nursing homes in the district.

3. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply. - No change.

Drainage and Sewerage. - No change.

Rivers and Streams. - The Ribble Joint Committee undertake the supervision of the rivers and streams.



Sanitary Accommodation at the end of 1941.

Number of	privy middens	14
"	" closets attached to these middens	14
"	" pail closets	13
"	" houses on water carriage system	1766
"	" fresh water closets	529
"	" waste water closets	860
"	" dry ashpits (excluding middens)	24
"	" movable ashbins	1867

There were three conversions of waste water to fresh water closets during the year.

Public Cleansing. - This is carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the Surveyor. One motor lorry supplemented by horse drawn vehicles are used for the service. Controlled tipping with salvage by hand disposes of household refuse, whilst other offensive matter is taken to an adjoining authority for incineration. Cesspools, privies, etc., all situated on the outskirts of the area, are emptied during the day and the refuse tipped on adjoining farm land.

Sanitary Inspections during 1941.

Number of	premises in general visited or inspected	75
"	" premises visited for inspection of nuisances	56
"	" visits to infectious cases	70
"	" nuisances discovered	75
"	" " abated	75
"	" informal or verbal notices	28
"	" statutory notices	7
"	" legal proceedings	Nil

Shops and Offices. - 71 shops have been inspected during the year.

Camping Sites. - There are no camping sites (other than military) in the area.

Smoke abatement. - Action remains in abeyance.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. - 7 houses were fumigated with sulphur dioxide and one treated with Zaldecide.

Offensive Trades. - None registered locally.

Factories Act, 1937. - No observations.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, Houses Let in Lodgings or Underground Sleeping Rooms.

No action was necessary in respect of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., or Canal Boats.

Rag Flocks Acts, 1911. - No premises concerned.

4. Housing.

No new houses were erected during the year either privately or with State assistance and no housing scheme has been contemplated.

Housing conditions are largely as in 1940 but the war has affected the housing position in three ways, viz:- the average number of occupiers per house has increased due to the influx of evacuees, the number of hitherto unoccupied houses has decreased and the difficulty of carrying out essential repairs has become still more pronounced.

Overcrowding. - There are almost certainly instances of overcrowding in the area but no action has been taken to ascertain the extent of this in view of the abnormal circumstances.

Clearance and Improvement Areas. - No action.

5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. - The register of Cowkeepers, Dairymen, etc., contains the names of 24 cowkeepers and 9 milk purveyors. There are some 300 cows in the district. Informal samples of milk have been examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Nelson, the details of the examinations being as follows:- 3 samples (all genuine) were analysed, being submitted to sediment test, bacterial count and methylene blue test; 2 of the specimens showed B. Coli present in 0.01 c.c. but were otherwise satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938. - Licences for the production or retail of specially designated milk are issued by the Lancashire County Council which authority takes periodic samples for examination. There are two farmsteads in the area at which Tuberculin tested (certified) milk is produced and three at which accredited milk is produced, the others producing non-designated milk. No pasteurised milk is produced in the area.

Meat and Other Food. - Central slaughtering is now undertaken at Colne.

Food Poisoning. - No case reported.

Food and Drugs Acts. - The administration of this Act is under the Lancashire County Council.

6. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

Hospital Accommodation. - Provided by Burnley Joint Hospital Board.

Infectious Diseases: - During the year there were more cases of scarlet fever than in recent years; measles incidence was mainly confined to the first half of the year. 4 cases of scarlet fever and 1 of diphtheria were removed to hospital. There were no deaths. 77 notifications were received comprising 39 cases of measles, 16 of scarlet fever, 13 of whooping cough, 1 of diphtheria, 1 of erysipelas, 5 of pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The Table shown on page 14 gives an analysis of the cases of infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) notified.

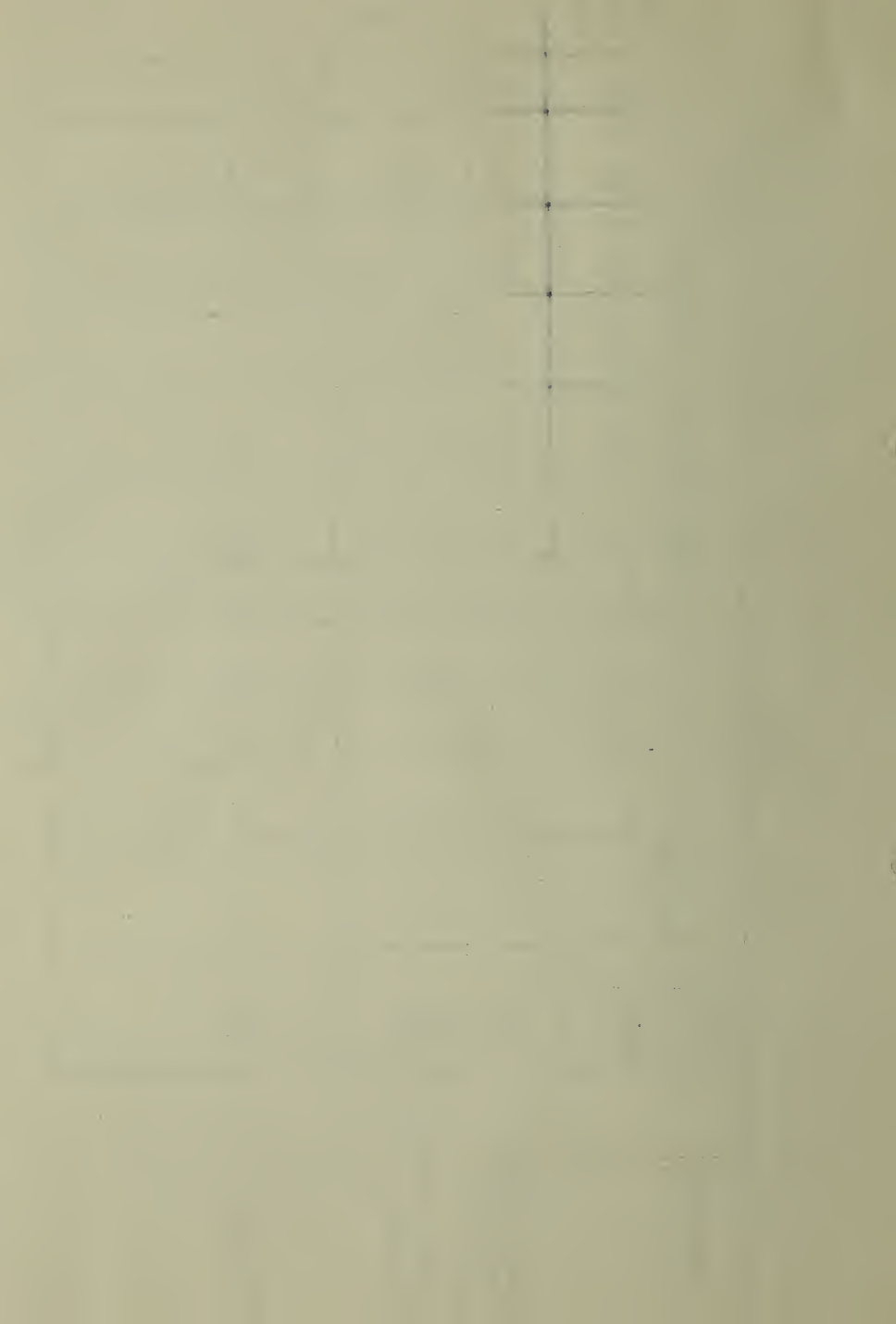
A supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin (available to local practitioners) is kept at the Police Station, Nelson.

The Scheme for Diphtheria Immunisation came into operation in October, 47 pre-school and 251 school children completing treatment.

Disinfection after Infectious Disease. 19 houses were disinfected by formalin spray and vapour, steam disinfection being used for bedding, etc., by arrangement with the Nelson Corporation.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations. - These are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Nelson, by arrangement with the Nelson Corporation. On behalf of Barrowford patients the following were submitted for examination:- throat swabs 39, sputum 2, blood films 4, pus for organisms 6, eye discharge 3, urine 10, pathological 6, ear swabs 2.

Disease	Total cases at all ages.	Age Groups - years										
		Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65 and over
Scarlet fever	16	-	-	-	1	5	7	2	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Measles	39	-	5	3	5	21	3	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping cough	13	-	1	3	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	70	-	6	6	9	29	10	-	3	-	-	1



Tuberculosis. - There were 7 new cases and 1 death during the year. Of the new cases 5 were respiratory (2 males - one between 25 and 35 years and the other between 45 and 55; and 3 females - one between 20 and 25, one between 45 and 55 and one between 55 and 65), and 2 non-respiratory, both males - one between 5 and 10 and the other between 20 and 25. The death was in respect of respiratory tuberculosis (notified) in a female between 20 and 25 years.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

No action has been necessary in regard to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

No action has been taken under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, dealing with the compulsory removal to hospital of tuberculous patients.

Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1941 are shewn on page 16.

7. Maternity and Child Welfare.

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum or Puerperal Pyrexia has been reported during the year.

Maternal Deaths. - No maternal death has occurred during the year.

England and Wales	126 C.Bs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns resident pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County	Nelson	Barrow-ford
Rates per 1000 Civilian Population:-					
Notifications:-					
Typhoid fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.09	0.09	0.05	0.00	0.00
Cerebro-spinal fever	0.25	0.31	0.30	0.00	0.00
Scarlet fever	1.47	1.49	1.01	3.07	3.36
Whooping cough	4.39	4.37	3.50	2.69	2.73
Diphtheria	1.25	1.53	0.93	0.55	0.21
Erysipelas	0.30	0.36	0.50	0.20	0.21
Measles	10.33	8.27	4.71	10.13	8.20
Pneumonia	1.25	1.53	1.07	0.29	0.00
Rates per 1000 Total Births (Live and Still):-					
Notifications:-					
Puerperal fever	11.91	9.43	2.29	2.54	0.00
Puerperal pyrexia			19.33		

